

TRADE

TO

INDIA

Critically and Calmly consider'd,

And prov'd to be destructive to the
general Trade of *GREAT BRITAIN*,
as well as to the Woollen and Silk
Manufactures in particular.



LONDON;

Printed for *W. Boreham* at the *Angel*
in *Pater-noster Row*. 1720, Price 6d.

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Printed for W. Boreman at the Angel
in Peter-neller Row. 1750. Price 6s.



THE TRADE TO INDIA

Critically and Calmly consider'd.



AFTER all the Arguments which have been used, on one Side as well as on the other, in the *Callicoe Controversy* now on Foot, have, as it were, been summ'd up, and laid before the House of Commons, and when we thought there had been little more to do than to wait the Resolutions

of the House, and receive from thence a conclusive Sentence: I say, after all this is done and over, we are attack'd a-new with powerful Applications, I do not say powerful Reasonings, drawn from the Usefulness and Advantages of the *East India Trade*.

This is the more surprizing, because they say 'tis done in Behalf of the *East India Company*. Many People really think there is so little to be said on that Head to the Company's Advantage, that it was always thought they would have been wiser, and had known their Interest better, than to bring that Dispute upon the Stage, especially on this Occasion of the *Callicoes*. It is surprizing I say also, because in all the Disputes about the *Callicoes*, the Weavers and Manufacturers have let the *East India Company* alone, as to the Consideration of their own Conduct, or the Trade in general: In short, they have never attack'd either the Company or the Trade, 'till these Men even forc'd the Discourse of both into the Controversy, by insisting upon the Merit of both, and that in a Manner, which no People, *that had really so little to say for it*, would have ventur'd to do, unless they were under some Infatuation, or
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the ill Influence of some Star, which pointed against them, and makes their being expos'd inevitable.

Nay, so far the Manufacturers have been from designing to concern the Company, or their general Commerce, in the present Dispute, that in the first Book which was publish'd in this Cause, entitl'd, *A brief State of the Question*; and in the very Introduction to that Book, it was laid down among the general Maxims, as a Fundamental, that the Trade to the *East Indies* was less concern'd in the Dispute than was generally imagin'd; that the Company might go on and flourish, though all that the Manufacturers ask'd were to be granted. In a Word, the *East India* Company, or their Trade, seem'd unconcern'd in the Dispute, unless we must suppose the Jobbing of their Stock to be call'd the *East India* Trade, and the Brokers to be the Company, which I cannot admit; I repeat it therefore again from the Book call'd *The brief State of the Question*, &c. the Words are these:

That the total Prohibiting the Wearing and Using of Printed or Painted Callicoes in Great Britain, is not ruinous to or inconsistent with the Prosperity of the East India

India Trade; or, to put it into an Affirmative, that may be more capable of Evidence, *the East India Trade may and would remain in a very thriving and flourishing Condition, and be carry'd on to the Profit and Advantage of the Adventurers, tho' all the Subjects of Great Britain and of Ireland were effectually limited from and prohibited the Wearing and Using of Printed and Painted Callicoës.*

'Tis remarkable, and deserves to be taken Notice of here, that in all that is said of or for the *East India Trade*, the Advocates for it rather apply themselves to answer and clear up the Objections continually rais'd against it, than to advance any Thing new or substantial in its Favour: This proves that the present Case is not the only Occasion there has been to complain of the injurious Effects of this Trade.

The great Question is plainly laid down thus, Whether the Trade, as now carry'd on to *India*, or to the *East Indies*, is profitable to the Nation, or whether it is not.

But, before I enter upon the Question, I must openly and professedly distinguish upon the Thing we are talking of; for I am certain, if we do not agree upon the Subject, we shall never agree

agree upon the Argument; and, I believe most of our Wrangling is for Want of determining first what it is we are talking of: My Distinction is this:

I say, we must *distinguish* here between the *East India COMPANY* and the *East India TRADE*: The Mistake here is the Foundation of all that Cavil and Talk, to little Purpose, which we have had on this Occasion; the Difference is plain; the *East India TRADE* is one Thing, the *East India COMPANY tradeing* is another.

I grant what was formerly voted by the House of Commons in 1694, That *it is most for our Interest that the Trade to the East Indies be carry'd on by an exclusive Company*: But this has no Relation to the main Question, *viz.* Whether *Trade itself*, whether with a Company or without a Company, *is an advantageous Trade?*

Again, we must distinguish between the Trade in Callicoes and Wrought Silks from *India*, on the one Hand, and the whole *East India Trade*, consider'd complexly.

But the officious Advocates for the Callicoes, will not suffer the *East India Trade* to be so passive or neutral in this Case as they ought to be; but as
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an Argument to support the Use of Callicoes, they bring the Company into the Debate, and, at last, they have petition'd to be heard.

It will be, as it were, but by Accident, that we embark the Cause of the Callicoes and *East India* Silks in this Debate: That the Callicoes are destructive to our Woollen and Silk Manufactures, have lessen'd their Consumption, beaten several Sorts of their Goods quite out of Trade; and that the Broad Cloth and Stuff Trade, in particular, are still more and more declining upon that Account, *has been prov'd at the Bar of the House*, and at the Board of Trade; and the Report of the Lords-Commissioners of Trade makes it out farther, thus:

It being therefore self-evident, that Printed and Stained Callicoes and Linnens are used and worn, by almost all Sorts of People in this Kingdom, and that every Piece so worn prevents the Consumption of the same Quantity of our Woollen and Silk Manufactures, we must conclude, that the Complainants have been and are exceedingly discouraged, and their Trade prejudiced thereby.

But 'tis the Trade to *India* in general, not the Callicoes, that is now the Question, and whether it may pass under
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that Title of a beneficial Trade to the Nation, or not.

If my Answer to this might distinguish rightly of the Company's Circumstances, I should, after some Regulations, vote in Favour of the Trade; and I will not doubt, but, with necessary Limitations, it might be allow'd to be an advantageous Trade: But without those Limitations, I cannot venture to call it so, by any Means; but, on the contrary, a Trade destructive to the Prosperity of our Country, not only in the Woollen and Silk Manufactures, but many other Ways besides. What those Limitations are, will appear in the Consequence of this Discourse.

There are but two Things, which, in this Case, can denominate a foreign Trade gainful to the Nation.

I. That it exports that which it is the Advantage of the Kingdom to export.

II. That it returns, or imports, something of which we consume little at Home, and export much.

The *East India* Trade, I fear, will be able to claim neither of these Qualifications;

cations ; but, on the contrary, it exports, or sends out of the Nation, that *which answers all Things*, and brings back that which amounts to *little or nothing* ; and it is in this Particular that the Merit of the whole Cause will lye.

Give the Advocates for the Trade to *India* their Due ; they do not pretend to any Merit on Account of their Exportations ; they did dwell upon it a little formerly ; but they now give up that Point. I doubt 60000 *l.* a Year, *if I should allow so much*, will go near to be as great a Sum as they will claim to export in Manufactures, one Year with another : As to other Things, they are rather Trifles for the Use of their Factories, than for a Market ; such as Wine, Beer, Bottles, wrought Iron and Brasses for Household-Stuff, and a few Manufactures for their own Wearing. The Company, indeed, perhaps to make a Show for that Occasion, have just now made two Entries of Woollen Manufactures, amounting to 4000 long Cloths, and 5000 Perpetuan's ; but this is suppos'd to be to make a Show, and we must look far back for such another Entry. It has been said, they are oblig'd by their Charter to export 100000 *l.*

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per Annum in Woollen Manufactures : It is said likewise, that they are limited, by the same Authority, to export no more than 300000*l. per Ann.* in Bullion, neither of which Conditions they have observ'd, if the Report of the Lords-Commissioners be to be depended upon, *as I see no Reason to question it* : By this Report, the very last Year's Exportations of the *East India* Trade (for here the Company may be call'd the Trade) amounts to but 83179*l. 14s. 5d.* tho' by far the greatest Year of their Exports, since 1715; by the last Year is meant 1718, the Account of 1719 having not been obtain'd; and the same Year they exported in Bullion 602844*l. 8s. 6d.* besides what they exported which was not enter'd, and besides what is carry'd out in private Trade; which two Articles, some tell us, amount to half the Sum; so that their Exportation of Silver must then amount to 904266*l. 12s. 9d. per Ann.* as to their Exportation of Bullion, the Account is most surprizing, indeed, and a bold Trespas upon the Law, if they are bound to export no more Bullion than, as above.

The Account above is taken out of their own Books, and reported by the

Lords-Commissioners of Trade. But it appears, that in the Year 1717, they exported 875,534*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.* publicly, besides all unenter'd and conceal'd, which, by the same Account, must be above 1200000*l.* in the Whole. Considering then their Trade to stand thus, they may be said to export 16 seventeenth Parts in Silver, and 1 seventeenth Part only in Manufactures. We are in Debt to their Modesty so much, as to acknowledge that they do not claim any Thing upon the Account of their Exportations; so the first Point is clear, namely, they do not export that which it is our Advantage to have exported.

The only Plea then that the Company can make for the *India Trade*, (for while I speak of the Company, I shall stick to what they plead themselves) is upon their Imports; and I will put it as fair for them as can be desir'd, namely, That they export again such great Quantities of the Goods which they bring Home, as sufficiently answers the Quantity or Value of the Bullion they send away to the Indies; and, upon this Foot, they would take off effectually, if the Fact were but true, all the Complaint made of their Exportation of Bullion: It must be acknowledg'd that if this Plea could be made

made good, they would gain a great Point; for whatever Goods the Trade from *India* sends Abroad, to be consum'd in foreign Parts, ought to be reckon'd clear Gain to the national Stock as to the Trade; and the Publick would owe them so much Money in Specie; so that then their exporting so much Bullion, as the Value of those Goods amounted to, would be no Trespas upon the national Stock, only taking out with one Hand what they put in with the other; tho' even in this Case it wou'd not appear that the Trade was gainful to the Publick, any farther than the Balance arising from their Exportations, exceeded the Bullion they exported; for if they carry'd out all they brought in, what Gain could they be to the Publick, which is the main Question in Hand: Indeed, then they would plead the Merit of all the Manufactures which they export, as above, besides that of bringing Home several useful Things for our Home Consumption, which we cannot well be without; such as, Salt Peter, Pepper, Drugs, Dye, Stuffs, Coffee, Tea, Raw Silk, &c. This, I think, is the full of what they alledge.

But I shall answer this two Ways, and, I think, both shall confute them effectually: *For Example,* *First,*

First, I'll suppose, that they really do export the full Quantity or Value of Goods which they say they do; their Account which was publish'd in their Favour, says, That for five Years, from *Christmas 1712 to Christmas 1717*, there was exported 3,335,928 *l.* Value in imported *India Goods*: Whether the Valuation of these Goods is made before the Duties are drawn back, or after, we do not know; but I will suppose it was without the Duties, which is still in their Favour: The Pretence against this is, that the Bullion exported is not so much as those Goods exported in the same Time, by 1,699,671 *l.* But the Falacy of all this will appear, by giving a more exact Account; for

1st, This Account is unjust, the five Years of Export of Bullion being not the same five Years of the Export of Goods: What the Reason of that Fraud is, I know not; the five Years of Export of Bullion he reckons from the 29th of *September 1711* to the 29th of *September 1716*; but for the Goods exported he reckons from 1712 to 1717.

2^{dly},

2dly, This Export of Bullion is false, and is only of the Bullion enter'd at the Custom-House by the Company, which all the World knows is not the Quantity of Bullion carry'd away by the Trade by a great deal: What the rest may be, we know, and shall give a particular Account of, with the Exports of the following Years, at the End of this Work.

In the mean Time, to go back to a juster Authority for their Bullion exported, we have the Abstract of the Bullion exported, taken by the Lords Commissioners of Accompts, as above, and laid before the Parliament; and to which I refer.

There it appears, that at a Medium of four Years, taken from 1715 to 1718, inclusive, the Company exported in Bullion 467,227 *l. per Annum*.

Which in five Years Time,	}	5
to make up the Time they		
charge their Re-exportation		
of <i>East India</i> Goods, is		2,335,135

Add to this half as much	}	1,167,567½
exported, but not enter'd at		
the Custom-House, as well		
by the Company as by pri-		
uate Trade, is		

Which, indeed, is too little. ———

Total 3,502,702 *l.*

So that the Export of Bullion, in five Years, exceeds the Export of *India Goods* in the same Length of Time 166,774 *l.* 10 *s.*

But what Need this Boasting! I shall next prove, that if it were true, that they exported more Goods than they sent Bullion away, yet, that every Groat of that Bullion remain'd unpaid for, and, by Consequence, was so much pick'd out of the Nation's Pocket, and a dead Loss to the publick Stock.

Secondly, I shall therefore wave these Niceties of Accompts, and come to the Facts; and, 1st, (for I shall do it two Ways) there is great Reason to know, and be assur'd, that so great a Part of these Goods, re-exported, or said to be re-exported, are not really sent away, but are relanded in *England*; or, if they are really exported, are clandestinely brought back, and consum'd at Home: And, if this be prov'd, where will the Balance of the Exports be then, that should answer the Bullion?

2^{dly}. Add to this the infinite Quantity of *East India Goods* imported upon us from *Holland* and other Parts; for this, to us, is a Part of the *East India Trade*; all which Goods are paid for, either with the Produce of those other

East

East India Goods which we export, or in Defect thereof, with Money, which is the same Thing.

Some have computed, that the Quantities of *East India* Goods, run in upon us from *Holland*, and consum'd here, are not only equal in Value to all the Goods of our Company's exporting from hence, but much superior to them: Where then is our Bullion procur'd? In short, the Bullion is then only bought with Bullion; that is to say, is taken away from the Balance of other Branches of our Trade, which are advantageous, and which supply it: But as to the *India* Trade, it does nothing for us.

If ever the Use and Wearing of Calicoes and Silks comes to be prohibited, all this Mystery of Iniquity will be discover'd, or will discover it self. It is impossible it should be then hid; for no Body will import the Goods which no Body will buy; and no Body will buy the Goods which no Body will wear.

But this is not all; for if *this Trade* does nothing *well* for us, it must do much *ill* against us; for there are no neutral Trades which do neither Good or Hurt. The Character of this Trade is, in
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short, what was printed of it near 20 Years ago, by an Author that examin'd it to the Bottom, (*viz.*) That it carry'd out *that which answers all Things*, and brings back that which evidently *proves the Destruction of our own Manufactures.*

These are short but pungent Arguments against the Benefit of the *East India Trade* in general, and are drawn up thus.

Suppose the Company, with their Servants and Officers, export yearly as above, 904266 *l.* 12 *s.* 9 *d.* in Bullion: The Quantity of Goods they bring Home is very great, their Sales make that appear: But 'tis also certain that the greatest Part of those Goods are for the Home Consumption, so that 'tis doubtful whether they export any Thing considerable, but what is clandestinely return'd upon us and consum'd here, and that too after the Government has been defrauded of the Duty: Let us examine it critically.

The principal Quantity of their Callicoes are exported to *Holland* and *Hamburg*: 'Tis hard to judge what they are sent thither for, since from thence it is too *far* a Truth, that a very great Quantity of Callicoes and *East India Wrought Silks* are brought in upon

upon us, by private Methods, without paying Custom at all. Y^e will, perhaps, be ask'd here, if the Methods by which it is done are private and conceal'd, how then does it appear to be so? since if it was sure that there were such Things done, the same Method, by which the Charge is prov'd, would discover and prevent it: But this is a Fallacy in itself, and is found so by the Nature of the Thing; for it is known by its Consequences as effectually as if it was known by the Discovery of the particular Facts. *For Example:*

The Report of the Commissioners of Accounts lays it down as a just Calculation, that a Million of People wear Printed Callicoes and Painted Linnens in Great Britain; and that they consume five Yards *per Ann.* to each Person, one with another, great and small; so that by this Account, five Millions of Yards of Callicoes and Linnens, printed and painted, are consum'd in a Year.

Of this Quantity they allow again three Fourth Parts to be Callicoes, and one Fourth Part Linnens; so that there remains to the Home Consumption of Callicoes three Millions seven Hundred

and fifty Thousand Yards of Printed Callicoes in a Year, which is so infinitely above the Quantity of Callicoes printed in a Year in *Great Britain*, that indeed it makes the Balance, which must be all imported, a Prodigy in the Trade.

I refer to the Account of Callicoes printed in *England* in any Year since the Duty on printing or painting of Callicoes has been settled in *Great Britain*, the highest Year I meet with being as follows:

The Quantity of Callicoes printed in <i>England</i> at a Medium of five Years, from the 24th of June 1714, to the 24th of June 1719, inclusive, is	Yds. p. An. 1,355,672
Printed Callicoes in the same Time exported	379,224
Printed Callicoes consum'd at Home in the same Time	976,448

If the Callicoes and Linnens worn in *Great Britain* are

Of which the Linnens are suppos'd to be $\frac{1}{4}$ Part

The

The Callicoes themselves } 3,750,000
 then are ————— }

From this take the Num-
 ber of Yards printed in
England and left for
 Home Consumption, as
 above, ————— } 976,448

The Balance, which must be
 imported clandestinely, is } 2,773,552

By this Account 'tis most evident, that
 the Callicoes worn in *Great Britain* a-
 mount to more than the Callicoes print-
 ed in *Great Britain* by two Millions se-
 ven Hundred seventy five Thousand
 five Hundred fifty and two Yards, which
 is a very great Quantity: But it will
 not rest here.

I shall take Leave to make one Ob-
 servation here from this just Deduction
 of Quantities, namely, That were the
 other Advantages of the *East India*
 Trade much greater than will upon
 Examination be found, yet 'tis worth
 enquiring whether any Trade can be
 call'd profitable to a Nation, or indeed
 ought to be suffer'd in this Kingdom,
 which, in the Consequence of it, is a
 Protection to such a monstrous Abuse
 of

of the Publick and to the fair Traders,
as well as to other Branches of Trade.

The endeavouring to continue any
Part of their Trade at so great an Ex-
pence of their Country, is really cri-
minal in the very Nature of the Thing;
and when such Evidence of this clan-
destine Trade is brought, and of its being
the Consequence of the Company's trad-
ing in Callicoes, and of their being thus
consum'd at Home, by which the Inju-
rious Trade is protected and render'd
undiscoverable, then very Company it-
self ought to come voluntarily, and of
their own Choice, into Measures to pre-
vent it; and if no other Method can
be propos'd, as it is certain none has
been, and 'tis believ'd, none can be,
they ought to give up such a Branch,
however otherwise profitable to them-
selves, as a just Compensation for the
Wrong: Such a Sacrifice would shew,
that it was their Desire, that the *East
India* Trade should be profitable to their
Country; and such a Sacrifice would
make it so. Then we should all plead for the *East
India* Trade, as a Business many Ways
useful, if not profitable; whereas now
it appears, that it is not only unprof-
itable, but very injurious to the Nation,
and

and dangerous to other Branches of our Trade, which are most profitable in themselves.

But the Certainty of this clandestine Trade is farther prov'd by the Manner of exporting the Callicoes which are printed here, or, at least, the Pretence of doing it; and this I find set out in Part, in a printed Paper, handed about at the Door of the House of Commons, entitled, *The Case of the Fair Traders, or a clear View and State of Clandestine Trade, as now carry'd on in Great Britain*, wherein, among other Things, is the following Paragraph, concerning the Exporting Callicoes printed in *England* to Parts beyond Sea, where *East India* Callicoes are not prohibited,

Callicoes printed here, are enter'd at the Custom-House for Exportation, but not shipp'd off; or, if they are shipp'd, re-land-ed and consum'd here, after 8 d. per Yard on the Importation, and 6 d. per Yard on the Stamp, are both drawn back.

It is certain, that the Quantity of *English* Printed Callicoes, exported thus by Certificate, and for all which there is drawn back 8 d. per Yard the white Duty, and 6 d. per Yard the Print Duty,

is exceeding great ; and the same Paper declares, That one House of Merchants (*call'd* DRAPERS) in *London*, has receiv'd, in one Year, more than 100000 *l.* for Drawbacks on such Callicoes : What became of the Goods, and where they were consum'd, it is very easy to judge.

Lastly. The last Evidence of the Fact in both these Branches of clandestine Trade, is from the frequent Seizures made by the Officers of the CUSTOMS of such Callicoes, as well those Printed at Home as Abroad, a large Parcel of which are, even at this very Time, condemn'd, and the Sale of them publish'd at the Custom-House.

It is hard to make an exact Calculation of the Quantities of Goods, Numbers of Yards, and Value, in both these Articles of clandestine Trade ; but I have great Reason to believe, that he who publish'd, that the Loss to the Government in the Customs only amounts to 400000 *l. per Ann.* is much within Compass ; but what the Injury to the Nation in Trade is, no Man can calculate ; 'tis an immense Sum, scarce credible so much as to mention.

If there was really nothing else to be said against the *East India* Trade, than this, That, *as before*, it is the Occasion
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of, and a Protection to such a publick Mischief in Trade, as this clandestine Way of Importation: This alone would be sufficient to give it the Title of an injurious disadvantageous Trade.

Nor is this Custom of running Callicoes the only Mischief of the *East India* Trade; for 'tis the same in the Tea, the Coffee, and the Pepper; the Examples are most flagrant; If the Quantities of Tea enter'd for Exportation were calculated in any single Year, by the Custom-Bills only, and that discounted out of the Quantity of Tea imported, it would not leave a Proportion equal to the visible Expence in *Great Britain*, by a prodigious Quantity: Whence then can it be supply'd but by foul Practices?

The Coffee (till a late Engrossment of Coffee, has alter'd the Case, and rais'd the Price) was to be bought cheaper of the Druggist, by the Bale or Hundred, than the Duty and the Price cost at the Candle amounted to, and that by 40 or 50 per Cent. and how should this be done, but by clandestine unfair Trading.

Pepper, since the high Duty of 1 s. 6 d. per lb. has wholly disappear'd, as to the Duty; the Exportation has been as great as

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the Importation, within a Trifle; and the Home Consumption has been reduc'd to about four Bags of Sweepings, or thereabouts, in a Year; that is to say, there has not above four Bags paid Duty at the Custom-House in a Year; and yet we had no Want of Pepper in *England*, but have consum'd as much as ever; and how has this been done, but by the Arts of Shipping and Re-landing, &c.

The Article of *foreign East India Goods*, (I call them foreign, because not imported by our Company, but by Stealth) has also another Thing in it, which overthrows all the Merit of the *East India Trade*; for, you must note here, that I am talking of the *East India Trade* in general; that is to say, the Trade in *East India Goods*, no Matter by whom imported, whether by our Company, or a foreign Company.

The Advocates for the *East India Trade* plead, that so great a Quantity of the *East India Goods* brought hither are re-exported, that it over-pays for all the Bullion they carry out.

I have accounted for great Part of these Exportations, on the Foot of their re-landing: But I say, if that was not to be mention'd at all, I shall over-balance

lance them, by the clandestine Importation of other *East India* Goods, by Way of *Holland*, as also from *India* directly, by the private Traders on Board our own Ships; the prodigious Quantities of both these are such, that, I am assur'd, they will amount to much more than all the Goods the Company here can pretend to send Abroad, or than are sent Abroad any Way from *England*.

Now, if this be true, as I see no Room to doubt, what is become of all the Exportations of *East India* Goods, boasted so much of? 'Tis all sunk at once, and, in short, there are not only none at all exported; that is to say, in Effect; but there are more *East India* Goods consum'd in *Great Britain* in a Year, than our own Company imports in all, by a very great Quantity.

It is impossible, indeed, to make exact Calculations of the Value of Things that are thus done by Stealth, and in private; but the Sum is incredible, and exceeds all our Calculation.

A certain Draper, learned in the smuggling Trade, and whose Importations of foreign *East India* Goods, if Fame belies him not, have borne a great Share in this Over-balance, has been pleas'd to say, at the Bar of the House

of Commons, that the Number of People in *England* who wear printed Callicoes, is very inconsiderable, in which he is pleas'd to differ strangely from the Opinion of the Lords-Commissioners of Trade, who judge them to be a Million.

I have heard a judicious Observer of these Things say, that he has calculated, that 320000 People were cloth'd in printed Callicoe and Linnen in the County of *Middlesex* only, exclusive of the Cities and Liberties of *London* and *Westminster*: Whether this Gentleman or the modest Pleader above were nearest the Point, I leave to the Judicious.

The modest Draper above-nam'd, however, to make some Amends for under-doing it, in the Number of Wearers of Callicoe, allows 16 Yards of Callicoe to be consum'd every Year by about 70000 People, who are all he allows to wear it; so that by his Account, the Expence of Printed Callicoes in *Great Britain* amounts to no more, than one Million one Hundred and twenty Thousand Yards a Year; which is not far off of the Number of Yards printed in *England*, and which is the Fund he goes upon, supposing no more to be worn than he can prove are printed in *Great Britain*.

Britain. Now let us go both Ways to Work : First let us take his Number of Wearers, and the Commissioners Quantity, five Yards a Year to each Person, one with another ; for some are Children, and take up but a little ; some are good Housewives, and make 'em serve longer than a Year, which makes the whole of the Callicoes consum'd in *Great Britain* in a Year, to be no more than 350000 Yards a Year.

Were this true, the Gentleman was much in the Right, who put the Question ; namely, *What Trifle then is it that they struggle for thus with the whole Nation ?* But this is all absurd and ridiculous ; and the Account given by the Lords Commissioners of Trade of the Number of Persons wearing Callicoes and Printed Linnens, being estimated at a Million, is certainly much more rational to make a Judgment upon, tho', without doubt, much below the Fact : Nor do I make any Scruple to say, and in it I speak the Judgment of Men of very good Understanding and Sincerity, that there are near two Millions of People in this Island who are at this Time cloath'd in and using Callicoe.

And

And thus, if there were a Deficiency in the Number of Wearers, it is made up many other Ways: There are many Thousands of Women who have two or three several Suits of Callicoe at a Time, for Morning-Gowns, Wrapping-Gowns, and Mantua's, and such like, besides that out of the Number of Yards calculated by the Commissioners, are excluded, the great Quantities used in Furniture, such as Quilts for Beds and Window-Curtains, and the like.

All the Use I make of these Calculations of Numbers, is this: That from hence is judg'd the Proportion of the Quantities brought in upon us from Abroad, I mean such as are brought from *India* to us by the Way of *Holland* or *Flanders*, or privately by our own Ships.

But as all Calculations of this Kind are liable to Exceptions, I'll take it their Way and our own together. The Drapers allow the Number of Yards worn by each Person to be larger than the Lords Report, being 16 instead of five Yards to each Person; the Lords Report allows the Number of Wearers to be a Million; and the other would insinuate them to be no more than the Callicoes printed in *England* can cloath;
but

but they bring no Argument to prove the Number of a Million is too great ; so I take it at a Medium, and cleaving to the Number of a Million of People, allow 12 Yards to each Person, thus:

One Million of People wear- } Yds.	
ing 12 Yards <i>per Ann.</i> each, } 12,000000	
is — — — — — } 500000	
Callicoes used in Furniture	

	12,500000
--	-----------

Deduct from this all the Linens printed in ENGLAND in a Year, and not Exported, which are	1,050758	
		2,037406

Also all the legally worn Callicoes, viz. such as are printed in ENGLAND, which are	976648	
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The Ballance is the Calli- } coes foully imported —	10,472594
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So that by this Rule there must be Ten Millions four Hundred seventy two Thousand five Hundred and ninety four Yards of Printed Callicoes clandestinely imported among us in a Year,

Year, besides *East India* Wrought Silks, in a very great Quantity.

The Value of these requires another Calculation; and I desire to do it as modestly as it can be desir'd. I'll suppose they cost us (for we must value them) not as they cost Abroad, but as we pay for them at Home, for that is the Foot of the Account, as we shall see presently.

Suppose then we give 2 s. 6 d. per Yard for them one with another (which, by the Way, is a very low Estimate) those foreign printed Goods bearing the best Price, as being valu'd at much more, and indeed generally printed better than those which are printed at Home; allowing then only 2 s. 6 d. per Yard upon the Quantity of Ten Millions four Hundred seventy two Thousand five Hundred ninety four Yards, it amounts to the Sum of One Million three Hundred and nine Thousand and twenty four Pounds fifteen Shillings per

Now, to bring all this to the Point, these clandestinely imported Goods of *India* must be paid for out of the Exports of the Company's Goods from

from *England*, before one Ounce of the Bullion, they want for their yearly Exportation, can be purchas'd by them.

Then consider their Exportations to be for the most Part re-landed, as has been shewn. The Ballance of the *East India* Trade runs against us thus :

Bullion exported, eight Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year.

India Goods clandestinely imported, One Million sixty five Thousand four Hundred and nineteen Pounds.

The Foot of this Account, is one Million eight Hundred and sixty five Thousand four Hundred and nineteen Pounds a Year dead Loss to the Nation by the *East India* Trade.

Only, that out of this must be reckon'd so much Pepper and other Goods as are really exported and not run back on Shore, which may amount to about three Hundred and fifty Thousand Pounds a Year at the most.

But against this is to be plac'd all the *East India* Wrought Silks, and Stuffs mixt with Silks, all the Handkerchiefs and Mullins that are run in upon us again, as well from *Holland* as from on Board our own Ships, which amount to a very great Quantity ; and 'tis believ'd will fully ballance the other.

E

But

But if all these were to be reckon'd as nothing, or thrown for the Supply of any suppos'd Over-reckoning in the above Calculation, or reserv'd *in Petto*, for a farther Account, there is yet a visible Ballance against them.

So that we lose by the Trade to *India*, fifteen Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year: Deny it they that can.

It is in vain to plead the Shipping, the Seamen, the People employ'd in this Trade, their Merit in Loans to the Government, or the like; no Trade, carrying out Money, and returning what is consum'd at Home, can be gainful to the Nation.

I wholly leave out of the Question the Mischief of the Goods they return, and the Hurt they do to our Manufactures; that's a Debate by itself; but I am now only upon the Subject of meer Profit and Loss to the Publick by the *East India Trade*.

It is scarce possible to omit, how glorious an Advantage there is now put into our Hands, nay, and into the Company's Hands also, to put a Stop to all this; to make them what they never were yet, *viz.* A profitable Company, and to shut the Door against Foreigners abusing

abusing us, and yet leave the Company a flourishing Company too.

It is, indeed, but a fallacious Advantage to take of them, and say, if their Callicoe Trade is so small, why do they labour for it so hard? Why complain of so much Injury done them? Why set it in Competition with the whole Woollen Manufacture and Trade of Great Britain? I say, this would be a fallacious Advantage, *though, as taken from the Mouth of their own Pleader, it would be just, as to them.* For the Fact is not Truth; the Quantity is infinitely more; and so great, that our own Company is not able to supply the Demand, no not even the Dutch; but our interloping Traders have assisted to erect another Company in Flanders, which they call *Imperial*; but, as it is well known, is erected upon and carry'd on by a Subscription of *English* Stock, and supply'd even with Captains, Factors, Seamen, and Ships from *England*: In Return for which, they supply *England* with their Goods; that is to say, they spread the Poison farther among us; and this very Draper, who pleaded at the Bar of the House, and others, that may be nam'd, were known to go over to *Ostend*, to the Sale of *East India* Goods

there, and to buy great Quantities of Goods there: How those Goods were brought over into *England*, the only Market for them, is still a Question, which is worth asking.

So that here is another Influx of *East India* Goods, how great, Heaven only and the Gentlemen-Drapers know. But this we all know, that these also must all be paid for from *England*, before one Ounce of that Bullion they talk of bringing back can come in; and where then is the Bullion found which they carry away, and which purchases all the Goods in *India*? The Answer is ready, 'tis even bought with Bullion, 'tis Money bought with Money, 'tis sent away at the Nation's Expence.

And here we sensibly feel the Damage sustain'd by the Publick from this Trade, namely, the Lessening and Consumption of our current Coin, whether they melt it down or no, I will not enquire here; that is a dark Trade by itself, which deserves to be enquir'd into; and which, if enquir'd into, may easily be laid open. But does any Silver, (that's the Question that will try it all) go to the Mint? The common Accidents of the World, and the ordinary Occasions of Trade and Travelling,

velling, will necessarily diminish the Coin if there is not a Supply. *And why are we not supply'd?* Why no Silver sent to the Mint? But because of the immense Quantities sent away to the *East Indies*.

And here, if we cou'd dilate and extend our Thoughts to consider not our own Trade singly, but the general Trade of the World, we shou'd find the *East India* Trade ruinous and destructive to the general Trade of all this Part of the World, as well as to ours in particular.

To judge of this, you must consider *Europe* as one Body, one Nation, or one general Interest in Trade, and set the *East India* Trade against it as another. The *East India* Trade exhausts the whole Treasure of *Europe*, and destroys thereby their Trade; carrying every Year such immense Sums of Money in Specie out of *Europe* into *India*, that the whole Body feels the want of it very sensibly. In Return of which, they bring their chief Manufactures and their Growth, and fill these Parts of the World with Gaiety and Trifles, and rob them a second Time of the Employment of their People. Some Part of *Europe* indeed have been wiser

ser than we are, and have prohibited the Use and Consumption of all these *East India Goods* for the very Reasons that indeed all the rest of *Europe* ought to do the same; namely, because they rob them of their Coin, and starve their Poor. This carrying the Mony thus away into *India* from *Europe* in general, is evident in the different Parts of *Europe*; for there are more Channels than this one, tho' by all the Channels it runs into the same Place. For Example,

England, Holland, Flanders, France, Portugal, and Denmark, send their Mony in the same manner in Bulk, and about by long Sea,

Egypt transmits vast Sums, even all the Silver they can get by Trade: I say, they send it down the Red Sea, and by the Gulph of *Mocha*, to the Coast of *Malabar* and Bay of *Bengale*, and all those Places, to buy *India Goods*; which again they sell into *Europe*, and bring back the Silver; which supplies that Export. The *Turkey Trade* does the like, for all the Silver the *Turks* get from *Europe*, which is no small Quantity, dreins off this Way, (*viz.*) to *Persia* and *India*.

Thus

Thus, in a Word, *Europe*, like a Body in a warm Bath, with its Veins open'd, lies bleeding to Death; and her Bullion, which is the Life and Blood of her Trade, flows all to *India*, where 'tis amass'd into infinite Heaps, for the enriching the Heathen World, at the Expence of the Christian World.

From this great Cause of *Europe's* Poverty come all the Shifts and Projects of *Europe*, for raising imaginary Wealth in the room of real Wealth; substituting Credit, which indeed is but Air, instead of Bullion, and Paper instead of Money; and they do indeed supply the Want of the Species, or else *Europe*, which is a trading Nation, if we may, as above, speak of it all as one Body, could not carry on her Commerce. Her Product and Manufactures wou'd not circulate for want of Money to assist that Circulation, and to circulate with it; for, in short, Money is the Stream of Trade which carries the Product and Manufactures; that is to say, Merchandise along with it. And if the Merchandise did not thus float upon the Water, that is Money, 'twou'd be a-Ground, stand and stagnate, and wou'd never be carry'd from Place to Place.

The Goods go out, the Money comes in; more are carry'd out upon the Strength of that Money, and the like. But here the Order of Trade is inverted; for in the Trade to *India* the Goods do not go out; the Product and Manufacture does not go out to fetch in the Money, as is the natural Course of Trade, but the Money goes out to fetch the Goods in; and this, in Trade, is letting out the Blood, and with it the Life.

There is an Evidence of this past Contradiction in the ordinary Affairs of Trade in *Europe*. For Example, if by the Interruptions of War, or any other Accident of the Sea, or Pyrates, or whatever it be, the Gallions from *New Spain* are prevented coming to *Europe*, by which the Quantity of Bullion is supply'd and kept up; we immediately feel the Loss; Trade, like the Belly, misses its Food; a Scarcity appears, like that of Corn in the Markets after a bad Harvest; and the Price advances 'till a Supply comes.

What is the Reason, but this, that the Trade to *India* exhausts the World, the Money drains all away insensibly, and grows scarce?

The

The other Trade of *Europe* does not do thus: If the Money goes out of one Country into another, it passes from thence into a Third, and thence again into a Fourth, and so back again from whence it came, and round again; ever circulating like the Blood in the Veins, and carries with it the Spirits, which nourish the whole.

But *India*, like the Grave, swallows up all, and makes no Return; that is, the Money never returns: What they send us back, is nothing; 'tis consum'd here, and so vanishes and dies away; serving only to amass more Bullion to be carry'd away; till, in a Word, it impoverishes not *England* only, but all *Europe*. And was Gold as good a Commodity in *England* as Silver, we shou'd not have Money left to carry on the common Course of Trade.

Thus, I think, 'tis clear, That the Trade to *India* is a disadvantageous Trade, in its own Nature, not to *England* only, but to all *Europe*. 'Tis hard we shou'd have it to say, 'tis more disadvantageous to *England* than to any other Part of *Europe*. But this is our Case, the Reasons are,

1. *Because* England being a manufaturing Country, and more engag'd in the manufacturing Part than all *Europe*; besides the bringing back of *Indian* Manufactures among us, for Cheapness and Gaiety pleasing to our People; we suffer more in our own Manufactures, than any other Nation can do in theirs.

2. *Because* other Nations, especially those who have Manufactures of their own, whether of Wooll, or Silk, or both, have been wiser than we, and have taken the Alarm early, and shut the Door of Trade against them; prohibiting the Use and Wear of them, under the severest Penalties; thinking it enough that the *Indian* Trade carries out their ready Mony, and impoverishes them that Way, and not allowing them to come back and ruin their People, by supplanting their Manufactures with the Returns; so cutting their Throats with their own Knife. This we hope for, tho' we are not arriv'd to it yet.

3. *Because* England not only receives all the Manufactures of *India*, brought by our own People, but is the Center of the Consumption of *East-India* Goods for the *Dutch*, *French*, *Fleming*, and, in a Word, for all the Companies of *Europe*,

rope; whose Goods are run boldly in upon us; and we as supinely run into the Expence of them, to the Ruin of our Trade, and Destruction of our Manufactures.

Neither of these three Particulars can be said of any other Nation of *Europe*; and therefore the *India* Trade, injurious to them all, is yet more particularly disadvantageous to us than to any of the others.

1. I cannot close this Work, without observing how effectually all this might be prevented, how easy a Stop might be put to it, and to what infinite Advantage to Trade, by this only Method; namely, of forbidding the Use and Wearing of printed Callicoes and Linnens.

2. That no other Method but this can do it, no Prohibitions, no Penalties, no Forfeitures; no, not if Running them were to be punish'd with Death, or Transportation, which is worse than Death.

But once forbid the Use and Wearing, the Work is done; what no Body can wear or use, no Body will buy; what no Body will buy, no Body will bring to Market; what no Body will bring to Market, no Body will fetch

from Abroad. And thus the Trade will be at a full Stop at once.

It has been too plain, that all Laws for preventing clandestine Trade, where the Gain of it is so high, are in vain. The Running of *French Brandy* is a Proof of this, which is done so openly, that *French Brandy* is now to be bought, upon the Coast of *England*, as cheap, within a Trifle, as at *Catalis*; and so of all other Goods, for 10 & per Cent. Men will contract to Run in any Kind of Goods that come from Abroad; and ensue them into our Shops, such as *Pepper*, *Coffee*, *Tea*, *Callicoes*, *China*, *East India* wrought *Silks*, *French Brocades*, *Dutch Blacks*, *Linnens*, *Fine Hollands*, and, in a Word, almost every Thing.

But once prohibit the Use of these *East India* wearing Cloths, and you effectually stop it all.

'Tis a Particular to the *Callicoes* and *East India* Goods, that they are chiefly used for upper Garments: If they were less expos'd, 'twou'd be more difficult to restrain them; but as it is, 'tis easy to do so.

It remains to show, that if this was done, the chief Grievance of the *East India* Trade wou'd be over; not but they

they would be an advantageous Trade even then, but they would do much less Harm than now, and yet wou'd drive a very great and profitable Trade to themselves: And with this Note shall close this Work, reserving the Explanation of it to another Time.



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Value of the Gold and Silver exported to East India.

		l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
1711.	1,817	Ounces Gold, at 4 l. per Ounce,	7,268	00	00		
	725,387	Ounces Silver, at 5 s. 6 d. per Ounce,	199,481	08	06		
						206,749	08 06
1712.							
	1,407 16	Ounces Gold, at 4 l. per Ounce,	5,631	04	00		
	588,923 15	Ounces Silver, at 5 s. 6 d. per Ounce,	161,954	00	7½		
						167,585	04 7½
1713.	1,261,409 5	Ounces Silver, at 5 s. 6 d. per Ounce,				346,887	10 10½
1714.	808,964 10	Ounces Silver, at 5 s. 6 d. per Ounce,				222,465	04 09
1715.	1,574,067 5	Ounces Silver, at 5 s. 6 d. per Ounce,				432,868	09 10½
1716.	1,601,915 10	Ounces Silver, at 5 s. 6 d. per Ounce,				440,526	15 03
1717.	3,183,763	Ounces Silver, at 5 s. 6 d. per Ounce,				875,534	16 06
1718.	1,919,148	Ounces Silver, at 5 s. 6 d. per Ounce,				527,765	14 00
1719.	2,056,807	Ounces Silver, at 5 s. 6 d. per Ounce,				565,621	18 06

9 / 3,786,005 12
420,067: